



McKinleyville vies for improvement funding

Jack Durham MAD RIVER UNION

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Sometime in June, McKinleyville may learn whether it will receive all or part of the nearly \$6.5 million it is asking for from the Statewide Park Development and Revitalization

Grant program. **BMX track**

The MCSD is asking for \$2,331,375 to develop a new park with a BMX track on 3.3 acres near School Road and Washington Avenue.

The undeveloped site, owned by the MCSD, would include a BMX track, bleachers, an inclusive playground, basketball and pickle ball courts and a restroom. The park would have native plants, an edible garden and include a perimeter walking trail.

MCSD ❖ PAGE 4



LOST & FOUND PacOut Green Team organizer Aaron Ostrom was a happy guy Saturday when he recovered the organization's work trailer, which had been stolen in Eureka a few days earlier. A tip about its whereabouts panned out, and the trailer was found at a residence on the corner of Norton and Central Avenue partially covered by two tarps. The trailer's contents – PacOut's tools and equipment – were jumbled, but intact. However, the truck is still missing. It's a white, four-door Dodge Dakota. A GoFund Me titled "Help Aaron replace the PacOut Green Team Trailer" is collecting donations, which will now be used to replace the truck if it isn't recovered. Even before finding the trailer, an undaunted PacOut conducted a 90 Minute Trash Bash in McKinleyville (see top of page) sponsored by Coast Central Credit Union (plus donated donuts and a gift certificate from Lily at Happy Donuts/Express Asian Food). The event drew 70 volunteers and filled a dumpster with an estimated 3,800 pounds of trash including seven needles, one couch, two laptops, a TV and more. PACOUT GREEN TEAM PHOTOS

THANK YOU HUMBOLDT **FOR OVER 35 YEARS!** #1 IN THE #2 BUSINESS! 707-839-2270

Bottoms grow OK'd, neighbors muster appeal

Kevin L. Hoover MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT **Humboldt County Planning** Commission last week approved the 8-acre Arcata Land Company cannabis grow on the Arcata Bottom. Approval came after the original 23-acre proposal was drastically downsized, with fresh assurances of ameliorated impacts.

The Thursday night hearing saw a freshened presentation by the project applicant, with significantly more support voiced during public comment than in the previous meeting.

Opponents - including the City of Arcata (see page 9) said they still consider the project too large and impactful, and insist that a full EIR be conducted.

GROW * PAGE 5



NEW AND APPROVED Areas outlined in red will house cannabis cultivation in what the applicant called a 65 percent smaller "reduced scale alternative." It includes 5.7 acres of mixed-light cultivation, 2.3 acres of outdoor light-deprivation greenhouses and 30,000 square feet of propagation space in existing greenhouses. The neighborhood at right is Westwood Village.

June 15 reopening likely even as cases climb

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HUMBOLDT - Weekly COVID-19 case counts have more than doubled but Humboldt County's health officer has confidence in vaccines and has set a goal of removing restrictions by June 15.

The county's changeable pandemic status was updated by Health Officer Dr. Ian Hoffman at the April 20 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Hoffman said that as vaccination progresses, planning is underway for a range of spring and summer audience events. The June 15 reopening goal is aligned with the state's, which bases the hoped-for reopening on

vaccine availability and the hospitalization statewide

If guidance is followed on spectator events and private gatherings, "We can keep the momentum of the vaccine effort one step ahead of any resurgence of the virus," Hoffman told supervisors.

But the virus seemed to be already resurging. Hoffman reported that the coun-

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COVID * PAGE 4

High school in-person learning going smoothly

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McKINLEYVILLE/AR-

CATA – By most accounts, the return of in-person learning at the Northern Humboldt Union High School District has been a success, with students grateful to be back on campus.

After more than a year of distance learning due to the pandemic, students at McKinleyville, Arcata, Pacific Coast, Six Rivers Charter and Mad River high schools returned to a hybrid learning model on April 5.

About a third of the district's students opted to remain in distance learning. The students who chose in-person learning were broken into two groups and alternate between one

week of on-campus learning and a week of distance

learning. "In general, I'd say things are going very well," said NHUHSD Superintendent Roger Macdonald at the April 20 meeting of the district's Board of Trustees.

"The kids coming to school were grateful to be at school," said Macdonald, who noted that attendance is at 90 percent.

Arcata High senior Isabella Volz-Broughton told the trustees in a written report that she was glad to be back on campus.

"As an athlete and a senior I feel so blessed to be where we are now. I get to have a senior season for softball, and many others get to also have their senior

HIGH SCHOOL ❖ PAGE 4

COVID closes Seascape

TRINIDAD RANCHERIA

TRINIDAD - The Trinidad Rancheria Tribal Government has notified tribal members, employees, customers and the community that the Seascape Restaurant was affected when someone present at the restaurant tested positive for COVID-19 the week of April 18.

As a result, the Seascape Restaurant is closed until further notice. Employees and guests who visited the restaurant between April 19 and April 23 should be tested and follow CDC recommend precautions.

The restaurant has been disinfected and will reopen as soon as staff have tested negative for COVID-19. Trinidad Rancheria is working closely with Humboldt County Public Health on contact tracing and testing efforts. An employee testing plan will also be developed with the county. Trinidad Rancheria will release more information as it becomes available.









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